

L.B. 96

are bad, my own personal feeling. One thing, I think that is important in this is that probably within this body as an active labor person, I probably have the seniority because I have been 25 years with the same organization, 20 years of this I spent as an officer and negotiated contracts for three different companies, with three different companies and I have worked in this, getting benefits with no regard to whether people were members or not. The same goes for the many times that, in the other two plants that I represent that I have had a hasty phone call when someone was fired or disciplined and I had to go and intercede in their behalf and I didn't go home and check the rolls to see whether that person was a member of our organization, all I had to know was that they were within the confines of our unit and then I went to bat for them and I have done that many times for people that didn't belong. I had a little feeling in my heart about it but it didn't affect the way that I actually performed for them. We bring up on this floor the issue of right to work law and really, it doesn't belong in this argument because the people had the question put to them of the right to work law and they voted to put it in the constitution that it should, should be for our people. All right. Some time later the Legislature of Nebraska decided that we should also not have the agency shop possibility within contracts. I want you to remember this, that agency shop clauses don't come automatic. Even when they are authorized you still negotiate them with the company and the decision as to whether you'll have it in an individual plant. Now, quite a few plants in Nebraska today have such a clause in their contracts that has been negotiated in the past and with it in the contract is a little stipulation that it shall be implemented if the change is made in the law. The companies have agreed in many cases, that it is not a bad thing. The only thing bad about it is it can't be implemented today. Now, if you take a look at the committee statement and I think that the committee did a fair job, they gave us a fair hearing. I don't agree that they gave us a fair vote but the hearing was very fair. You look at the people who came and testified for and against the bill, testifying against the bill was no person, not one, who would be involved in this decision. No employee of any company where there was a union or an employee organization come and said this was a bad bill and also, I would like to see if anyone in this Legislature has received even a contact from such a person. I have not. We're talking, in most cases, about somewhere between a minimum of 2% of the employees and a maximum of 5%. We talked about part-time or probationary employees. Probationary employees would not be covered under this bill. They would not fall under it until they became regular employees of the company, so we end that. When we see the people that came against this and their talks about how it would affect industry. I personally believe they're wrong. I looked at their polls they had taken. It was not a separated issue in their polls. I don't believe that it is a problem. I would become interested in going up to Cherry County and seeing how many industries Senator Kime has now that would be affected or how many more he expects to get in that Sandhills county if we leave this as such. And I would leave one thought, just one thought, that we're asking the farmers to help us as we many times help you. Now, it's very interesting that with reapportionment, the farmer's day in this Legislature is gradually leaving. You have a small voice now but one more reapportionment and you're going to be clear out of style and it's about time that you recognize somebody is going to have to help you and it better be the employee because when it becomes a fight between farmers, business and industry, the farmer is going to lose. I hope that you will vote to raise L.B. 96.

SPEAKER: The motion before the house is to place L.B. 96 on general file notwithstanding the action of the committee. This takes 25 votes. Those in favor vote aye. Those opposed vote nay.

(End of Belt #10)